

YOUTH EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES

WonderfulWordsOfLife

YE2D · Teacher Edition

Primaries · Year 1: Life of Christ

Christian Educational Ministries — a faithful digital edition of the printed program

A Royal Ride

MEMORY VERSE

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord” (NirV). Luke 19:38

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Identify the kind of animal Jesus rode into Jerusalem.
2. Give three facts they learned about Jesus.
3. Tell why Jesus came to earth.
4. Name some ways that they can honor Jesus.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Creator

Disciples

Donkey

Honor God

Honor Your Father and

Mother

Honoring Others

Hosanna

Jerusalem

Jesus, Death of

Jesus, God the Son

Jesus, Savior

Jesus - Without Sin

King of kings

Peace

Triumphal Entry

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, hole punch, markers, cardboard or card stock, geometric shapes listed in Activity, scissors, narrow ribbon, colored construction paper, songbook, CD or tape, music player, memory verse and attendance charts, stars or stickers, blackboard & chalk or newsprint pad

PREPARATION

Since the theme of this book is "Wonderful Words of Life," begin each lesson by explaining the meaning of the "Words to Know." Use a blackboard or newsprint pad to write the words and a short definition. Then use the word in a simple sentence to help cement the meaning in their minds. Each lesson in this unit contains a key word. This word should be emphasized, as it plays an important role in understanding the lesson. Today's key word is honor.

One of the great characteristics of primaries is their imagination. Many of them have imaginary friends and playmates. Some children have imaginary pets. Capitalize on this wonderful characteristic when teaching this age group. Have them imagine that they are Jesus' disciples. As you ask the questions, refer to the children as disciples. Having them close their eyes as you describe the setting for today's lesson may help them picture the scene.

Before you come to class, cut out six geometric shapes (circle, oval, square, triangle, diamond, octagon) out of cardboard or card stock to be used as patterns. You will also need enough 24" lengths of narrow ribbon for each child to have one.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Honor - We are instructed in scripture to show honor to many people. We are to honor God forever, in 1 Timothy 1:17. John tells us to honor Christ in the same manner that we honor the Father, in John 5:23. Children are commanded to honor their parents, in Ephesians 6:2, and are rewarded if they do. Timothy shows us our responsibility for honoring the aged and widows. But, what are some practical ways that we can show honor to those who are worthy of honor.

Honor defined - The word "honor" means: something done or given to show respect. In other words, we can demonstrate honor by things we do or what we say.

Walking with Jesus - Begin by telling the children to close their eyes and imagine that they are one of Jesus' disciples. They were walking with Jesus along the dusty road on their way to Jerusalem. Ask: How did they (the disciples) show honor to Jesus when He told them to go get the donkey? How did the people along the road honor Jesus? Do you remember what the people said that showed honor for Jesus?

Love makes it easier to honor - Explain that when you love someone, like God, Jesus or your parents, it is not hard to honor them. You want to please them. You want to make them happy. Ask: Can you think of some ways that you can honor your mom and dad? You may have to

“prime the pump” by suggesting that they could help Mom set the table, or they can tell Dad how much they love him. Allow the children to come up with as many ideas as they can on their own.

How we honor God - Now ask: Is there anything you can do to honor God? This may take a little more thought on the part of the children. Have them close their eyes once again. This time they should imagine that they are sitting in a room with their Heavenly Father – the creator of the whole world. Ask: How would you feel? Would you be afraid? Would you be ashamed of some of the things you have done? Suggest that obeying God’s commands will show Him that you love Him and honor Him. Other answers might include: attending Sabbath services, reading the Bible, memorizing verses and telling others about Him.

Honoring people - Tell the children that there are many other people whom we should honor or respect. Ask: Can you think of someone in our church that you should honor? Whose job is it to protect us – do they deserve honor? (Police or firemen) Who has the most important job in our country? Do you think we should honor him? List these people on your black- board or newsprint pad. Once again, emphasize that they can honor people by what they do as well as what they say.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When Jesus came into Jerusalem, what was He riding?
2. Can you think of three things about Jesus that make Him extra special?
3. Why did Jesus come to this earth?
4. What does it mean to honor someone?
5. How did the people show honor to Jesus?
6. What can you do to honor Jesus?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Memory Verse Mobile

Give each child two different colored sheets of construction paper, and a piece of narrow ribbon 24" long. Cut the following patterns, circle, square, triangle, oval, octagon, diamond, out of card stock or cardboard for the children to trace around. Tell them to trace one of each shape on their paper, then cut them out (they can share the patterns). Each child should end up with six different shapes. Now have the children copy the memory verse onto their shapes, dividing them as indicated:

“Blessed is – the king – who comes – in the name – of the Lord” – Luke 19:38.

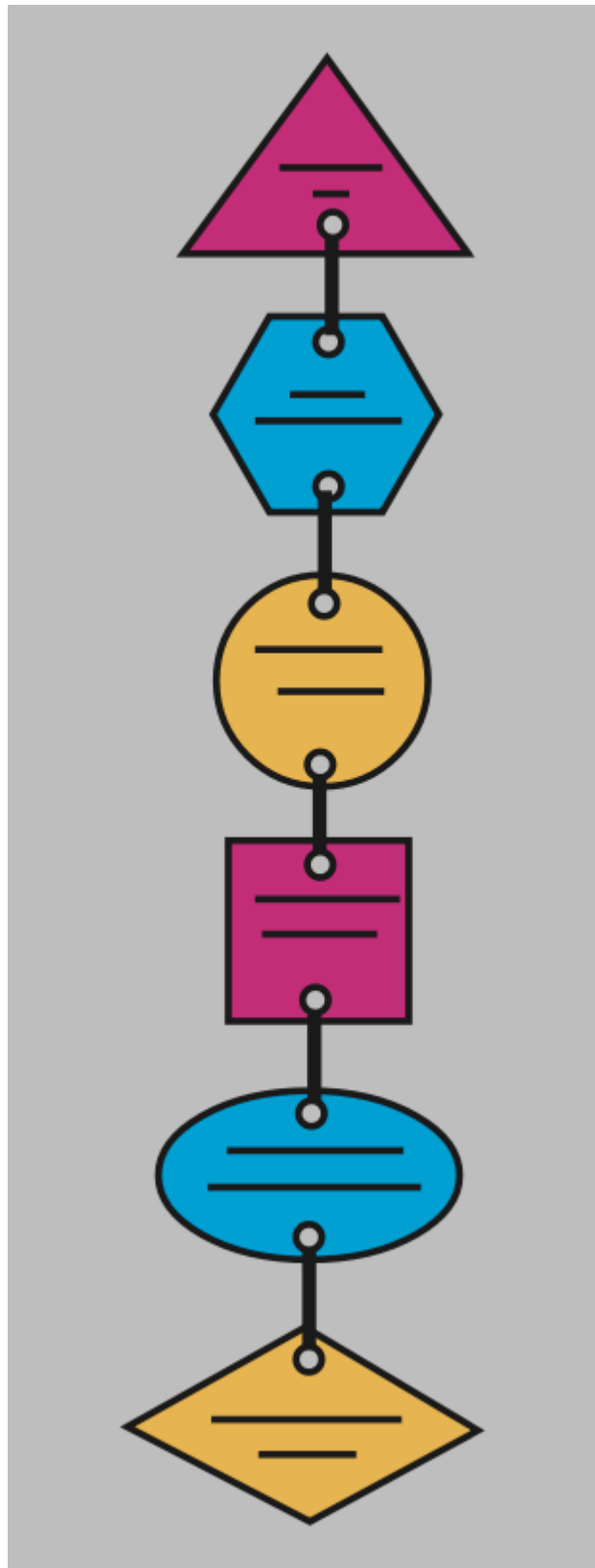
Using a hole punch, punch a hole in the top of each piece. Thread the ribbon through each piece in order, leaving a small space between each, and making a knot to hold it in place. This can be hung in the child's room to remind them of who Jesus is and that they should honor Him.

SONG

“Hallelu, Hallelu” is on page 77 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the children if they would like to lead in prayer that will honor Jesus. Remind them that obeying is one of the best ways we can show our love and respect.



A Broken Bottle

MEMORY VERSE

“You, O Lord, are worthy to receive glory, and honor and power” (Paraphrase). - Revelation 4:11

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Define the word “worthy.”
2. Name some ways in which we honor people today.
3. Tell what Mary did to honor Jesus.
4. Give the reason why Jesus is worthy of honor.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Bethany
Disciples (Judas)
Honor God
Jesus, Anointing of
Jesus, God the Son
Judas
Lazarus
Loving God
Mary and Martha
Money
Obedience
Perfume
Praise
Worthy

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students’ and Teacher’s books, magazine pictures of Washington D.C. sights, perfume or fragrance oil, “milk glass” bottle or vase, shoe box, wrapping paper and bow,

construction paper, scissors, crayons, songbook, CD or tape, music player, attendance and memory verse charts, stars or stickers

PREPARATION

As a teacher, you should be aware that your primary aged children are awkward and restless. They cannot sit quietly in one place for the entire Sabbath School class. They need opportunities to move around. If your room is small, you may try seating them on the floor for the lesson time, and allowing them to stand at a table for their craft time. When asking a question of the class, tell the children to stand to their feet if they know the answer, instead of raising their hand. Remind them that they must wait until called on to give the answer.

Varying your teaching methods, and giving children an opportunity to participate in an active way will help to keep their interest and attention. Since primaries are inquisitive, they enjoy handling objects. Use visual aids that are not easily broken. Allow the children to use their sense of touch, smell, and taste as well as their sight.

Bring a perfume bottle or fragrance oil for the children to smell. Be careful that they don't spill it. If you can locate a "milk glass" bottle or vase it will be similar to the alabaster bottle.

For today's lesson you should cut out and display magazine or travel folder pictures of various Washington, D.C. sights - including the White House, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Memorial, etc. Tell the children what these buildings are. Explain to them that many of them were built to honor a past President.

Today's key word is worthy. The Presidents were worthy, or deserved to have a building named after them. Jesus was worthy, or deserved the very best that Mary had to offer.

Before class, separately gift wrap a shoe box and lid. Place a bow on top of the lid. Enlarge the patterns given on the pattern page in the center of this book and copy on construction paper.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Jesus' visit to Simon's house - Jesus had often been to the town of Bethany, which was about two miles from Jerusalem. This time He was being entertained by a man named Simon. Jesus had previously healed Simon of the dreaded disease of leprosy. Mary, Martha and their brother Lazarus also lived in Bethany, and were present at this gathering. Ask: Do you remember a time when Jesus went to their house for dinner? Martha was busy cooking and cleaning. She was busy serving a meal. What was Mary doing? Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened carefully to every word Jesus taught.

Jesus is worthy - Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened very carefully. She didn't want to miss hearing one word that He said. And when the meal was over, she wanted to do something special

for Jesus. She wanted to honor Him with the very best that she had. Jesus is worthy of our worship and praise. He is worthy of our life and our service – the very best that we have.

Alabaster perfume bottle -The Bible dictionary describes the “box” in today’s lesson as a flask or bottle. It was made out of alabaster, which is a translucent white substance, sometimes having white lines running through it. (Show them the “milk glass”) It was filled with perfumed oil that was used to prepare bodies for burial. This bottle was sealed to preserve the fragrance, and often the neck of the bottle had to be broken in order to pour out the oil. (Open your perfume bottle and allow the children to smell the fragrance) It was very expensive, worth about a year’s wages. Once the bottle was broken, it could not be sold.

Judas didn’t like it - Judas was quick to accuse Mary of being wasteful. He made a great show of wanting to use the oil to help feed the poor. Ask: Why do you think he wanted Mary to sell the oil and give the money to feed the poor? Do you think he really cared about poor people? In truth, Judas was being greedy. It was his job to carry the bag of money. He would often help himself to some of the money that belonged to the other disciples. He felt that by anointing Jesus with the oil, she had taken something away from him.

Jesus helped Mary - He told the people that Mary had acted out of love. She knew that Jesus would soon have to die. She might not ever have another chance to give something to Him. The thing that she gave was the best that she had. She was trying to say, “You, O Lord are worthy to receive glory, and honor and power.” No one else was worthy of such a gift! Ask: What can you do or give to Jesus to honor Him? Allow the children to think of as many things as they can.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Who were Jesus’ friends who lived in the town of Bethany?
2. What did Mary do to honor Jesus?
3. Why did Judas scold Mary?
4. What does our memory verse mean when it says Jesus was worthy to receive honor?
5. How do we honor people today?
6. What can you do to honor Jesus?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a plain sheet of construction paper, and one that has the patterns printed on it (patterns are located on the pattern page in the center of this book). Explain that we are preparing a gift to give to God. Tell the children that they will all want to give something. They can do as many of the following things as time allows, and place them in the box. Make sure that they write their name on each item. When everyone has placed their gifts in the box, close it and

keep it in a prominent place in your room. You can take something out of the box each week and ask if that person has remembered his or her gift to God. Trace their hand and cut it out - Showing that they will do things that are good, like helping their parents, or cleaning their room.

Trace their foot and cut it out - Showing that they will go to Sabbath School each week.

Cut out a mouth - Showing they will use their mouth to sing praises to God, to invite someone to Sabbath School.

Cut out a child praying - Showing they will talk to God every day.

Cut out the Bible picture - Showing they will read their devotionals each day and learn their memory verse each week.

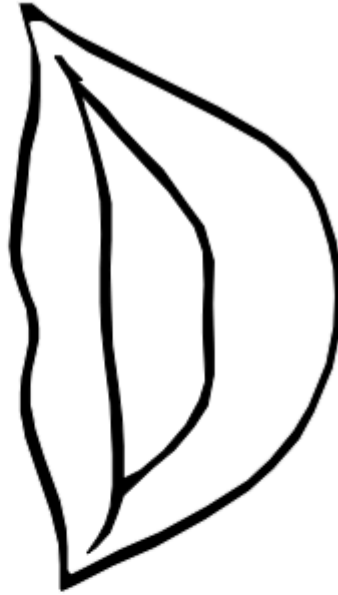
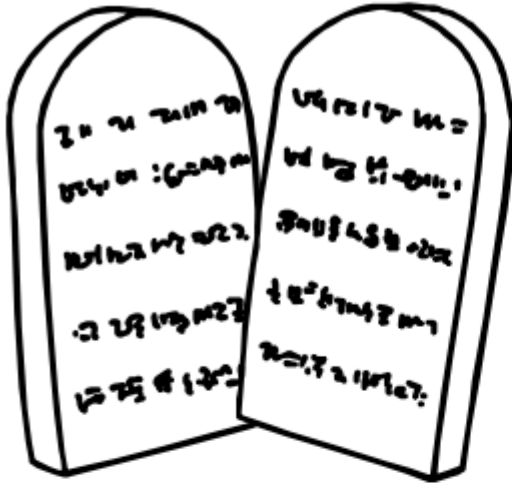
Cut out the Ten Commandments - Showing they will do their best to obey God's commands.

SONG

"Praise Him, Praise Him" is on page 76 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Have one of the children lead in a prayer of praise.



A Sad, Sad Supper

MEMORY VERSE

“He said, ‘I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me’” (NIV). - Matthew 26:21

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Identify the Passover as a time when God saved His people from the death angel.
2. State that Jesus and His disciples were eating the Passover meal in an upstairs room.
3. Tell which disciple betrayed Jesus.
4. Give the reason the disciples were sad.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Angel, Death

Betray

Blood

Bread and Wine

Disciples

Eating Unleavened Bread

Jesus, Death of

Jesus, our Friend

Jesus, Lamb of God

Jesus, Savior

Judas

Moses

Passover

Pharaoh

Remember

Sin

Slaves

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars or stickers, songbook, CD or tape, music player, poster board or construction paper illustrations

PREPARATION

In order to be a successful teacher you must be prepared to teach children, not just read lessons. Take into account the interests and capabilities of the age group you teach. Get to know your children individually. They need to know that you are interested in them. Call them by their name, often. Ask them about their family, their pets, their favorite sport or hobby. Identify special needs like hyperactivity, handicaps and behavioral problems. Often a personal visit to the home will be helpful.

Storytelling is often referred to as an art. In telling stories to children you must have a feel for the words and a love for the story. But, more importantly, you must know your audience. Observe their reaction to what is being said, and watch for subtle signs of understanding.

The key words in today's lesson are betray and remember. Judas turned his back on Jesus and turned Him over to His enemies. The Lord's Supper was instituted to help us remember why Jesus died. Emphasize these words, and help the children understand why it is important that they remember.

Before you come to class, draw each of the simple illustrations, located on the pattern page, on a piece of poster board or construction paper. These can be used in teaching the lesson and for review.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

As you tell the story about the Lord's Supper, hold up the illustrations as indicated in the lesson.

Why the Passover is celebrated - When we want to remember or celebrate an important event, like a birthday or anniversary, we often do so by inviting guests and having a party or special meal. The Passover is a time when we celebrate and remember the time God saved His people from slavery in Egypt.

Israel's harsh treatment - The Egyptians treated God's people very harshly. Pharaoh ordered them to make bricks to supply his builders, but didn't give them the supplies they needed. God's people were made to work very hard, and often they were beaten if they didn't work fast enough. This was a very hard time for God's people. (Hold up illustration #1)

Let my people go! God sent Moses to speak to Pharaoh on behalf of His people. Moses went to Pharaoh time and time again asking that God's people be freed so that they might go into the desert to worship their Creator. But, Pharaoh's heart was hardened. He didn't want to lose his

slave laborers. Instead of letting them go, he made their work even harder. God sent curses on the Egyptians, but still Pharaoh refused to let the people go. (Hold up illustration #2)

First born killed - Finally, God sent one last curse – this was the worst curse of all. Moses told Pharaoh that unless he let God’s people go, all of the first-born children of Egypt would be killed. He told the Israelites to put the blood of a lamb above and on the sides of their door. (Hold up illustration # 3) That night the death- angel would pass through the land. When he saw the blood on the door, he would pass by that house. But, where there was no blood, the firstborn child would die. Pharaoh and the Egyptians didn’t believe it, so they didn’t put the blood over their doors. God’s children were saved alive because they obeyed God’s command.

Jesus Celebrates the Passover with His disciples - Jesus and His disciples were celebrating Passover with a special meal. They met in an upstairs room. A table was prepared. (Hold up illustration #4) There was lamb to help them remember the Passover lamb whose blood was placed above the door. They had flat bread that was made without yeast. And they had wine to drink.

Judas betrays Jesus - Jesus told the disciples that it was almost time for Him to die. He also told them that one of the twelve who sat at the table with Him would betray Him. Each one began questioning Him saying, “Is it I?” Even Judas, who was the betrayer, asked if he was the one. Jesus knew what was in his heart. He said that it would have been better if he had not been born. Judas left the other disciples and went to Jesus’ enemies. He told them that he would lead them to Jesus so that they could put Him to death. But, being the selfish, man that he was, Judas wanted to be paid. He was given thirty pieces of silver for kissing Jesus so they would know who he was. (Hold up illustration #5)

The broken bread and wine - After Judas left the room, Jesus took some of the flat bread and broke it in pieces. (Hold up illustration #6) He gave a piece to each of the disciples and told them that each time they ate the bread they should remember His broken body – it was broken for us. Then Jesus offered thanks to God and told the disciples that each time they drank the red wine they were to remember His blood that would be shed. This blood, like the blood of the Passover lamb, was for their salvation.

God wants us to never forget what Jesus did for us. Whenever we take the Lord’s Supper it is a reminder to us. Judas turned his back on Jesus, but we want to always remember what He did and be thankful.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Hold up the illustrations one at a time and ask the following questions:

1. Why were the Israelites, God's people, sad when they were in Egypt? (#1)
2. What did Pharaoh say when Moses told him to let God's people go? (#2)
3. What saved the first born child of God's people? (#3)
4. Who was in the upstairs room eating the Passover meal? (#4)
5. Who betrayed Jesus to His enemies? (#5)
6. What do we remember when we eat the flat bread and drink the red wine? (#6)

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Let's test our memory! This game is to help teach the children to remember what Jesus did for them. Have the children sit in a circle. Tell them to look around at everyone seated and try to remember what they look like. Now ask one child to leave the room and wait in the hall. Explain that they are not in trouble, this is part of a game. While in the hall that child should change one thing about their appearance (like remove their glasses, take their shoes off, remove or put on a sweater or carry something). Now have the child come back into the room. Ask the other children if they see anything different about that child. Repeat with as many children as you have time for.

SONG

"I Will Sing Of The Mercies Of The Lord Forever" is on page 17 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear Father, Thank you for the bread and the wine that reminds me of Jesus. Help me never forget what Jesus did for me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

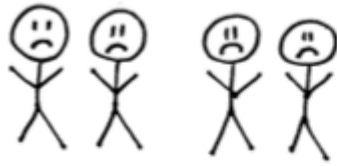


Illustration #1



Illustration #2



Illustration #3

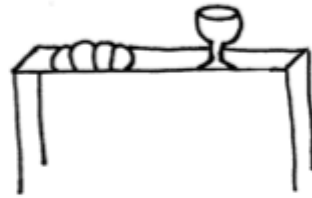


Illustration #4



Illustration #5



Illustration #6

A Serving Savior

MEMORY VERSE

“Don’t use your freedom as an excuse to sin. . . Serve one another in love” (Paraphrase). - Galatians 5:13

OBJECTIVES

1. At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:
2. Tell that a servant is someone who helps another.
3. Give reasons why Jesus washed His disciples feet.
4. State that serving or helping others is a good thing to do.
5. Think of ways that they can serve others.
6. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Disciples
Footwashing
Helping Others
Humility
Jerusalem
Jesus, Servant
Jesus Sets Example
Kindness
Passover
Peter

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students’ and Teacher’s books, baseball and bat, towel, shallow pan for paint, pan for warm water, bulletin board paper, tempera paint, dishwashing liquid, magazine pictures of children in various activities, glue and sheet of plastic for the floor, attendance and memory verse charts, songbook, CD or tape, music player

PREPARATION

In years past, if a child did not learn, the tendency was to excuse it by saying, “He is lazy. She doesn’t care. He has problems at home.” etc. “We must realize, however, that the teacher’s responsibility is not simply to transmit information, then dodge behind one of these pat reasons if a child doesn’t learn. The teacher’s responsibility continues until the child has learned” (Basic Principles of Effective Teaching, by June Crabtree). Remember that the test of learning is whether a change has been affected because of your teaching. Many times that change takes place in the heart and mind of the teacher as well as the child.

The key word in today’s lesson is serving. The goal of the lesson is to teach your children how they can be serving, and that serving pleases God. Helping them to think of specific ways to perform acts of service, and observing them as they interact with other students, will help you determine whether true learning has taken place.

Before you come to class, have your room set up and ready for the activity. Cut a length of bulletin board paper long enough for all of your students to make their footprints. Place a sheet of plastic on the floor at one end of the paper (a large garbage bag will do). Place the pan of warm water on the plastic. Mix ½ cup of light colored tempera paint with a few drops of dish-washing liquid and pour a thin layer into a shallow pan. Place the paint pan at the opposite end of the paper. Place a chair and towel at the end next to the pan of water.

Cut out pictures of children doing “helping things” from magazines. Trace and cut out footprints and number them from one to eight to be used in the review.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

This might be a good lesson to introduce “role playing” to your children. Choose three children to play the role of Adam, Steve and Billy. (If your class has more girls than boys, assign them girls names) The teacher can play the role of Mother. Begin with “Mother” sitting in a chair and “Adam” seated on the floor with a ball and bat. The other two children can be off to the side.

Set the stage for the role play by reviewing the story in the student’s book. Ask the child playing Adam: What do you think you would do if your mother said she would not make you go help Mrs. Smith? Would you go play ball with Steve and Billy? Would you whine and say it isn’t fair? (Have the child act out his or her response.)

Have “Billy” and “Steve” come running up to where “Adam” is seated. “Mother” tells them about Mrs. Smith’s phone call and her need of help. Say: Wouldn’t you boys (or girls) like to help Mrs. Smith? You could be a servant, like Jesus. Ask “Billy” and “Steve:”How would you answer Adam’s mother? Would you tell her you would rather play ball? Would you say you don’t even know Mrs. Smith? Would you say picking apples might be fun? (Allow the children to come up with their own reply.)

Walking was the main method of transportation in Jesus' day. They didn't have tennis shoes or hiking boots. Everyone wore sandals. When they walked on the dusty roads their feet would get hot and dusty. When they entered someone's home, the hostess usually provided a pan of water to cool and cleanse her guest's tired feet. Washing and drying the feet was usually done by a servant.

Remind the children of how Mary poured the perfumed ointment on Jesus' feet in lesson two, and then dried His feet with her own hair. She was showing Jesus that she loved Him. Now ask: Why do you think people usually had water to wash their guest's feet? It was to show kindness.

Jesus and His disciples had gone to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. The meal was now over. No one had bothered to provide a pan of water to refresh their feet. No one wanted to do the dirty job of washing. The disciples were busy arguing about who was the most important.

Jesus saw opportunities for teaching in every situation, and this was no different. In order to teach His disciples that they were called to serve, Jesus took a basin of water and a towel and began to wash their feet. In doing so, Jesus was showing them that even He, the Son of God, had come to serve (John 13:14-16). They had been called to help meet the needs of others. Jesus, our Lord and Master washed the disciples feet as an example for us to follow. During the Passover service we wash one another's feet to show that we are to humbly serve others.

When Jesus gave His life by dying for our sins, He was meeting our needs and serving. He is right now sitting at the right hand of His Father in heaven talking to God about our needs here on earth. Jesus did many miracles to help and meet the needs of others. Ask: Can you think of some- thing Jesus did to serve or help someone else? You may need to prime the pump by giving examples, like: feeding the five thousand, healing the sick, raising the dead, etc. (Allow time for the children to think of some of Jesus miracles.) Ask: Would you be willing to give up your play time in order to help or serve someone else? In their activity time they will be able to choose some things that they can do to serve.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

To make the review both fun and beneficial, trace and cut out eight footprints and number them from one to eight, to correspond with the question numbers. Place the footprints on the table, number side down. One at a time, allow each child to pick a footprint. Ask the child the question that corresponds to the number on the footprint.

1. Why were Jesus' and the disciples' feet hot and dusty?
2. Why had they come to Jerusalem?
3. What did Jesus do after they had finished eating the Passover meal?
4. Why was Jesus the one who washed their feet?

5. Why do we wash one another's feet at the Passover service?
6. What lesson did Jesus want to teach His disciples?
7. Are there things that boys and girls can do to serve?
8. Can you name something that you can do to help or serve someone?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Have the children remove their shoes and socks and form a line by the chair at the end of the paper on the floor. Lead the first child by the hand to the pan of paint. One at a time, have each student step into the paint. While holding his hand, have the children make footprints on the paper, walking to where the pan of water and chair are. Seat the child in the chair, placing his feet into the pan of water. The next child in line helps wash his feet and dry them with the towel. Then that child goes to the paint pan, repeating the action, until all children have footprints on the paper, and have helped wash and dry feet.

Allow the children to pick a picture from the table of something they can do to serve someone else, and glue that picture by one of their footprints.

SONG

"Jesus Wants Me For A Sunbeam" is on page 21 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear Jesus, Thank you for washing the disciples' feet. Thank you for teaching me how to be a servant. Help me to be willing to do things to help and serve others. In Jesus' name. Amen.

A Passionate Prayer

MEMORY VERSE

“Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth” (NIV). - Psalm 86:11

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Tell that they can pray to God when they have a need.
2. Give the reason why Jesus had to die.
3. Trust God to do what is best for them.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Disciples (Judas)

Eternal Life

Falling Asleep

Gethsemane

God's Love

Jesus, Crucifixion of

Jesus, Death of

Jesus, Savior

Jesus Sets Example

Jesus - Without Sin

Judas

Prayer

Sin

Trusting God

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars or stickers, construction paper footprints for path, Scotch tape, songbook, CD or tape, music player

PREPARATION

“Our purpose should be to equip the students with the skills, tools, and motivation to become lifelong Christians with a lifelong commitment” (Basic Principles of Effective Teaching, by June Crabtree). We want them to not only know who Jesus and God are, but to understand that they can be trusted. We want them to learn early on that God loves them and cares about them. He cares when they are sick or when they are frightened. It is important that they know that Jesus loves them, and that He gave His life for them.

Prayer is an important first step for the primary aged child. Because of their emotional immaturity and insecurity, they need constant reassurance. The assurance that God both hears and answers their prayers will encourage them to tell Him their needs. When they come to understand that God wants the very best for them, they will gain confidence.

Even as mature adults, we do not always understand the ways of God. It is in these times that we must all learn to trust Him by faith. Since the primary child is literal in his thinking, he may ask questions as to “how, when or why.” He may ask why God just didn’t make another way for sins to be forgiven. Or, he may wonder if he will have to suffer too. It is essential that you let him know that God’s thoughts and ways are much higher than our thoughts and ways (Isaiah 55:8-9), and that there are some things we will not be able to understand. We will have to be like Jesus, and trust that God’s ways are best.

Today’s key word is prayer.

Cut out enough construction paper footprints to make a path on the classroom floor. Begin at one end of the room, placing the footprints about six inches apart. At the halfway point, make a “fork” in your path, having footprints going in two different directions. Make two directional signs for your paths, saying “God’s way” and “My way.” Place the signs on the floor next to each fork in the path.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

In order to teach the children to trust God, you must teach them to make choices. Using the following scenarios, have one child at a time walk on the footprints to the fork. There they must choose to go their way or God’s way.

1. Pretend you are like Connie in our story. You are very sick. Your mother wants you to go to the doctor. You are afraid the doctor will give you a shot. But you want to get better. (Walk to the fork) Will you go God’s way and do what your mother thinks is best, or will you tell her you don’t want to go because you are afraid? What will help you not be afraid?
2. You have a new teacher at school. She is very strict. You are afraid she will punish you for not doing your homework. (Walk to the fork) Will you go your way and pretend you are sick so you

can stay home? Will you go God's way and go to school, telling your teacher that you are sorry you forgot to do your homework? What do think might help you?

3. Your little sister got into your room and scattered your books all over the floor. You know your mother wants your room kept clean. (Walk to the fork.) Will you go your way and yell at your little sister because you don't want to get into trouble? Will you go God's way and help her pick up the books? How can you keep from getting mad at your sister?

4. One of the boys in your class made fun of you because you struck out in the baseball game. He was calling you names. (Walk to the fork.) Will you go your way and think of some names to call him? Will you go God's way and forgive him, and practice your swing? How can you forgive when someone does something bad to you?

5. You were in a store with your dad. You wanted a candy bar, but Dad wouldn't buy it for you. You picked it up and put it in your pocket. Later Dad saw you with the candy and asked you where you got it. (Walk to the fork.) Will you go your way and tell him you don't remember where you got it? Will you go God's way and tell the truth, even if you will get into trouble? What will give you courage to do what is right?

Jesus knew that He would have to suffer. He would have to pay the penalty for our sins. He went to the garden to pray to His Father. Ask: What if Jesus told His Father that He didn't want to die for our sins? If He didn't obey God, He would not be perfect. But, we know that Jesus was perfect. He chose to do what God wanted.

We can always trust that God's way is best for us. It may seem hard to do things God's way, but if we ask Him, He will help us.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Use the footprints when asking the review questions. Allow the children to "walk" their answers.

1. When Jesus was here on earth whose way did He walk?
2. When He prayed in the garden to His Father, did He tell Him that He didn't want to die?
3. Did Jesus get mad because He had to die for our sins?
4. When we are afraid, what should we do?
5. If we think we will get in trouble, what should we do?
6. Which way is the best way?
7. What will give you the courage to do what is right?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Line the children up at the beginning of the footprints. One at a time, blindfold the children and lead them to the fork. You may switch the signs, or leave them the same. The blindfolded child must choose which path to take by listening to the hints of the other children – they may call out, “God’s way,” or “My way” as the blindfolded child turns in one direction or the other. The object of the activity is for the child to choose to go God’s way.

SONG

“Whisper A Prayer” is on page 57 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the children if they would like to lead in prayer, asking God to help them make right choices, and thanking Him for hearing their prayer.

A Lasting Love Story

MEMORY VERSE

“The Lord. . . said, ‘I have loved you with a love that lasts forever’” (NIRV). - Jeremiah 31:3

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. State that God’s love lasts forever.
2. Identify who God loved – the whole world.
3. Tell how God showed His love.
4. Tell how Jesus showed His love.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Betray

Bible

Creator

Disciples

Forgiveness

God’s Judgment

God’s Love

God’s Plan

Jesus, Death of

Jesus, God the Son

Jesus, Savior

Jesus, Suffering of

Jesus - Without Sin

Judas

Loving God

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, Students’ and Teacher’s books, CD or tape, music player, construction paper, tissue paper, glitter, foil, confetti, shaped hole punches, clear Contact paper, yarn, scissors, chalkboard and

chalk or newsprint pad and marker pen, attendance and memory verse charts, stars or stickers

PREPARATION

The primary aged child, like most of us, has an enormous need to be loved by both their peers and by the adults in their life. Since these children are self-centered, they will often misbehave merely to gain the attention of the teacher.

The effective teacher has learned how to let the students know when they do or say the right thing. Through verbal or nonverbal acceptance of students, she establishes a comfortable classroom atmosphere. She makes the students feel at ease and gives them the impression that she is “on their side.”

Today’s lesson emphasizes the key word, love.

Before you come to class, cut enough heart shapes out of red construction paper for each child to have one.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

The story about Mrs. Tuttle in the student’s book points out some real differences between the different types of love. She showed her students that loving a doll or food could not compare with the way that God loves us. God’s love is a supernatural, agape, love. It is a love that sacrifices for the benefit of the loved object. This kind of love is one of the fruits of the Spirit of God dwelling in you. Jesus demonstrated this agape love when He gave His life as a ransom for us. Ask: How did God show us that He love us? Write on your newsprint pad or chalkboard: He gave His Son. Then ask: How did Jesus show that He loved us? Write: He gave His life.

Point out to the children that true love is not selfish (1 Corinthians 13:4-5), but is kind. God provides us with everything we need, like food, clothes, shelter, a family to take care of us, etc. Ask: If you love your sister, and she wants to borrow your bike, what would you do? If your best friend lost his lunch money and didn’t have anything to eat, what would you do?

God’s love is all inclusive. Jesus came to die for the sins of the whole world, not just a few of His favorites. It doesn’t matter whether a person is rich or poor, whether his skin is black, yellow, brown or white. In John 3:16 we see that God loved the whole world, and that anyone (whosoever) who puts his trust in Jesus can have everlasting life. “For there is no respect of persons with God” (Romans 2:11). Write: “Jesus died for the world” on your newsprint or chalkboard.

Ask: How could you show love to a new kid at school whose skin may be a different color than yours? Allow the children to think of some ways, like inviting him to sit with you at lunch, or asking him to join in your game at recess.

When Mrs. Tuttle talked about the food Tommy loved, she asked what was left after he ate it? Tommy replied, “It was all gone.” It only lasted for a little while. But the kind of love that God has for us, and the kind of love that Jesus showed were everlasting. It is like this circle – it has no beginning and no end. It just keeps going on forever. God’s love for us does not end when we do something we shouldn’t. Jesus’ love didn’t end when the soldiers beat Him or crucified Him. True love forgives. Write: “Love forgives” on your newsprint or chalkboard.

Ask: What would you do if your friend had a birthday party and didn’t invite you? Would you get mad and not speak to her? Would you tell her she was no longer your friend? Do you really love that person? Will you forgive her?

We all need someone to love us with this special kind of love. A love that lasts forever. A love that includes all kinds of people. A love that is giving and kind. God wants us to learn to love the way He and Jesus love. Write: “Love lasts forever” on your newsprint or chalkboard.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When God looked down and saw that people were doing all kinds of things they shouldn’t do, how did He feel?
2. Who was the only person good enough to take the punishment for the whole world?
3. When Jesus was beaten, made fun of and finally crucified, did He get angry? What did He do?
4. Tell three things that describe true love.
5. Who needs this kind of love? (Have the children write their name on one of the hearts and tape it to the newsprint pad or chalkboard, signifying that they need this kind of love from God, and that they will try to love others like God loves.)

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

The children will be making “I Love You” suncatchers.

Seat the children around a table and provide colored construction paper, tissue paper, foil, confetti, glitter and shaped hole punches. Allow the children to tear or cut small pieces of construction paper, tissue paper and foil. Some of the children can take turns cutting shapes from the construction paper with the hole punches.

Spread a sheet of Contact paper on the table with the sticky side up (large enough for each child to have a six inch square). Allow each child to select one of the above items, and sprinkle them in a thin layer on the Contact paper. Place another sheet of Contact paper atop the first sheet, sticky side down, and gently press together. Cut the decorated sheet into six-inch squares and give one to each child. Have them trace around their own hand, or around a heart shaped pattern, and

cut it out. Punch a hole in the top of the shape and thread a length of ribbon or yarn through the hole.

They can give the suncatcher to someone they love to be hung in a window.

SONG

“Jesus Loves Even Me” is on page 8 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the children to lead in prayer, thanking God for loving, giving and forgiving them.

Alive Again!

MEMORY VERSE

“Why do you look for the living among the dead?” - Luke 24:5b

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

1. Give the reason the women were going to the tomb.
2. State the first thing they saw different about Jesus' tomb.
3. Tell who the women saw at the tomb.
4. Give the reason why Jesus was not in the tomb.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Angel

Eternal Life

Mary

Resurrection

Sabbath

Spices

Three days/nights

Tomb

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, butcher's paper, crayons, picture of caterpillar and butterfly, tree branch, peanut in shell, newspaper strips, Elmer's glue, water and gray paint, attendance and memory verse charts, stickers or stars, songbook, CD or tape, music player

PREPARATION

In order to instill in our children the desire to return again and again to Sabbath School, and to introduce them to Jesus as a real friend, it is imperative that you make your lessons exciting. The people in your Bible were real people. They had the same emotions, fears and problems that we

all have. Help the children relate to them by pointing out the similarities or differences. Discuss things like clothing, houses, customs, etc.

You can ascertain how well your students understand the lesson by asking questions. But, a more fun and creative way would be to allow the children to paint or draw the events of the story. For today's lesson you will need a long strip of butcher's paper placed on a wall. Be sure to hang it low enough for the students to reach. If you use paints, you will want to put paper on the floor to protect it from spatters. Supply each student with an old shirt to protect their clothing.

Allow the children to participate in teaching today's lesson by drawing the key elements as you tell teach the lesson about Jesus being alive again. Assign each student a section of the paper, or they can work together in pairs or small groups. Have the student or group draw as you tell the story and ask questions.

Before you come to class make a cocoon. Cut a branch from a tree or bush. Carefully break open a peanut shell and remove the nuts and put the shell back together. Attach the empty shell to the branch by wrapping it with strips of newspaper that have been softened in a mixture of half Elmer's glue and half water. After the cocoon dries, paint it gray.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Use the cocoon as an object lesson to teach the resurrection. Show the children your cocoon. You may want to find a picture of a caterpillar and butterfly for the children to see.

Explain that at a certain time of year the caterpillar will completely wrap itself in layers and form a cocoon. (Show your cocoon) The cocoon is not colorful like the caterpillar. It looks like a gray lump on the branch. It looks dead.

But if you watch the cocoon for a few days or a week, something wonderful happens. The cocoon will begin to move. It will open, and out will come a beautiful butterfly! While it was inside the cocoon, the caterpillar changed into a butterfly. It is no longer limited to walking on branches – it can fly! Look inside the cocoon. (Cut open your cocoon) It is empty. The caterpillar is gone.

When Jesus came to earth, He walked here with men. He ate with them. He talked to them. He taught them. But, one day He was put to death. They placed His body into a tomb, sort of like the cocoon. Jesus was in the tomb for three days and nights. But, then something wonderful happened. The stone was rolled away and Jesus came out – alive again! He was now free to rise up to heaven to be with His Heavenly Father, much like the butterfly who could fly away!

Scene 1: Three women walking down the road

Mary and two other women were walking down a road together. They were carrying something. Ask: What did these women have in their hands? What were they going to do with these spices?

As they walked along they looked very sad. Ask: Why do you think the women looked so sad? What happened to Jesus that made them so sad?

Scene 2: The tomb

The women were going to Jesus' tomb. In Bible times people were sometimes placed in caves to be buried, instead of in the ground. Ask: What does a cave look like? After Jesus died, one of His friends let the disciples place Jesus' body in a cave that belonged to his family. Ask: After they placed Jesus in the tomb, or cave, what did they place in front of the door? It was a huge stone that took many men to move. They rolled the stone in front of the door so no one could get in or out.

Scene 3: The tomb with the stone rolled away and the angel standing there

When the women came to the tomb, something surprised them. Ask: What did the women see? That huge stone was rolled away. How did the women feel? Were they happy? Were they sad? Were they afraid? The women were afraid at first because they didn't know who had moved the stone. But, when they looked inside they were afraid of something else. Ask: What did they see when they looked inside the tomb? How did the tomb look inside? There was someone at the tomb waiting for the women. Ask: Who was there? The angel had good news for the women. What did he tell them?

Scene 4: Women running

The women could hardly believe their eyes and ears. They were so happy to hear that Jesus was alive again. They were excited. Ask: What did they do after the angel told them the good news? They wanted others to know the good news.

We can all be happy about the good news the angel had for the women. Jesus died and came back to life again. He promised that we could have life forever with Him if we believe and obey God's word.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Go to scene 1 of the time line and ask the questions again.

1. What were the women carrying?
2. Why do they look so sad?
3. Where were the women going?
4. What was placed in front of the door?
5. What did the women find when they got to the tomb?
6. Who was waiting for them there?
7. What did the angel tell the women?

8. What did the women do when they left the tomb?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Today the activity has been combined with the telling of the story.

SONG

“Alive, Alive” is on page 55 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Teacher leads the children in prayer, thanking God for the resurrection, and for the promise of our future resurrection.

Exciting Evidence

MEMORY VERSE

“After his suffering and death, he appeared to them” (NIRV). - Acts 1:3

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Give the reason that Jesus appeared to so many people.
2. List at least three people who saw Jesus after His resurrection.
3. State what the evidence proved.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Disciples

Fish, Fishing

Jesus, Ascension of

Jesus, Crucifixion of

Mary

Peter

Resurrection

Thomas

Tomb

Witnesses

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, six paper lunch bags, tape or stapler, rocks, cloth, dry leaves, keys, nails, slice of bread, rake, picture of a hand, fishing rod or net, attendance and memory verse charts, stickers or stars, songbook, CD or tape, music player

PREPARATION

It has been said that a meal is not complete without dessert. This is somewhat true of an effective lesson. If you have a good beginning (introduction or attention step) and a meaningful ending, your lesson has a better chance of being remembered. A meaningful conclusion should be planned as carefully as the beginning and body of the lesson.

Study carefully the objectives of your lesson. Emphasize these objectives as you teach the body of your lesson. Reinforce these objectives and answer any questions during your conclusion. Apply the Bible teachings to the everyday activities of your students. And, review the objectives and their application during the activity part of your lesson. Remember, that each portion of your lesson has been designed to drive home these objectives, and to teach the children to live according to God's directions.

Before you come to class, place the following items around your classroom: a stone, rake, key, picture of a hand, and a fishing rod or net. Make a magnifying glass out of poster board, or bring a large magnifying glass to class to help you find and examine the evidence.

Place each of the following items into paper lunch bags and staple or tape the bags closed: a few rocks, a piece of cloth, dried leaves, key, nails and a slice of bread. Number the bags from one to six.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Today you are going to be detectives. You will use your magnifying glass to look for clues or evidence. Since the children have read their lesson at home, they should be familiar with the term. But, in case there are some who may not have read the lesson, explain that evidence is a sign or clue that proves something is true. You are looking for evidence that proves that Jesus did what He said He would do.

Lead the children around the room until you "find" the stone. Seat the children on the floor and tell them that you will examine the evidence. This is just a small stone. Ask: After Jesus was placed in the tomb, what was placed in front of the door? It was not a small stone, it was a very large stone. It took several men to roll the stone in front of the door. But after three days and nights something happened to that stone. What did the women find when they came to the tomb on the first day of the week? The stone had been rolled away. This was evidence that something had happened.

Lead the children once again around the room until you "find" the rake. Seat the children and examine the rake. Mary was very upset when she found the tomb empty. She thought someone had stolen Jesus' body. Ask: When she heard a voice speaking her name, who did she think it was? Whose voice was really speaking to Mary? Mary heard with her own ears and saw with her own eyes. It wasn't the gardener, but Jesus who talked to her at the tomb. She had evidence that Jesus wasn't dead!

The next item in your search is the key. Ask the children to find the key and be seated. As you examine the key, tell the children that it is a door key. Ask: Who was in a room with the door locked? Why did they lock the door? The disciples were afraid for their own lives. Ask: Who

appeared in the room with the disciples? What evidence did Jesus show them to prove who He was?

Lead the children to the picture of the hand. As the children are seated, tell them that someone was not in the locked room that night. Ask: Which of the disciples was not there? When Jesus met Thomas, He told Thomas to do something. What did Jesus tell Thomas to do with his hand? Thomas said he would not believe unless he could touch the nail prints in Jesus' hands and feet, and the place in His side where the soldier stabbed Jesus. Thomas had his evidence that this was really Jesus!

The last item is a fishing rod or net. As the children "find" this item, seat them again. Some of Jesus' disciples went back to their job of fishing after Jesus died. Jesus went to the seashore and ate bread and fish with them. Ask: Can a dead person eat fish? The disciples had evidence that Jesus was no longer dead – He was alive again!

Jesus appeared to many people after He came out of the tomb. They saw Him with their own eyes. Some ate with Jesus. Thomas even touched Him. They all could prove that Jesus really did come back alive again.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Pretend you are in a court room. The teacher or assistant can be the judge. (Pound the gavel and call the court to order.) The following questions should be asked to prove that Jesus really rose again:

1. Why do you think Jesus showed Himself to so many people after His resurrection?
2. How do we know that Jesus' body was not taken away? Who saw Him at the tomb?
3. Jesus' disciples were meeting in a room with the door locked. How did Jesus prove to them that He was alive?
4. Thomas was not in the room when Jesus appeared. How did Jesus prove to Thomas that He was Jesus and that He was alive again?
5. Jesus proved that He was alive to Peter by doing what?
6. What did all of this evidence prove?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

On a chalkboard or newsprint pad, write the numbers from one to six. Have the children sit in a circle on the floor. One at a time, pass the numbered bags around the circle. Allow each child a few seconds to feel the bag, then pass it to the next child. When each child has examined the bag, ask what they think was in the bag. Write their answer on a chalkboard or newsprint pad next to the corresponding number. After all six bags have been passed around, and their contents

recorded, open the bags and show the children what was actually in the bags. Explain that they have just examined the evidence.

SONG

“Isn’t He Wonderful” is on page 42 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the children if they would like to lead in prayer, thanking God for the evidence that proves Jesus rose from the dead like He said He would.

Share the Story

MEMORY VERSE

“So you must go and make disciples of all nations” (NIrV). - Matthew 28:19

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Tell what the cure for our sin is.
2. Describe the people for whom Jesus died.
3. Explain the message that the disciples were to take to people around the world.
4. Give an example of some way they can share the story.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Disciples
Eternal life
Forgiveness
God’s kingdom
God’s Love
Great Commission
Jesus, in Heaven
Jesus, Savior
Obedience
Offering
Prayer
Sharing the Gospel
Sin

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students’ and Teacher’s books, crayons, scissors, transparent tape, world map, various colors of skin-toned construction paper, flannel board, attendance and memory verse charts, stars or stickers, songbook, CD or tape, music player

PREPARATION

So often people think of children's ministry as babysitting or keeping children busy while their parents are off doing more important things. The truth is that spending time teaching these pliable minds may make a difference that will last a lifetime.

"Christian education must be applicable to children's lives today – not just in the future. Christian education without application is like the Internet without a modem. Not much is going to get transferred!" ("all that glitters . . . may be gold," Children's Ministry magazine).

Before you come to class, enlarge the visual aid patterns located on the pattern page. Color them and cut them out, backing each one with flocked paper or a strip of double faced tape.

Enlarge and make copies of the children patterns (located on the pattern page) on different shades of skin colored construction paper. Make enough so that each child will have at least one.

Place a world map on the wall low enough for the children to reach.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

It is important that the children realize we live in a big world. That world is not merely a globe that sits on the teacher's desk. That world is made up of people who come in different shapes and colors, and who speak different languages. And, it is for those people that Jesus gave His life – the cure for sin.

Begin by asking the children if they know someone who looks different than they do, or who speaks a different language. You may have diverse cultures in your classroom. Explain that God loves them equally. He sent Jesus to die for the sins of everyone. But, there are people in some parts of the world who have never heard of Jesus. There may be people in their own neighborhood, or even in their family who do not know that Jesus died for them.

God has a mission and plan for our lives. Part of that plan is that each one of us be involved in sharing the story – the good news of Christ as the cure for our sin. Children can have an active part in taking the message of salvation.

Place the megaphone on the flannel board. When people go to a football game they sometimes use a megaphone to yell for their favorite team. The megaphone helps others hear what they are saying. God wants everyone to hear that Jesus died for their sins. Instead of using a megaphone to help them hear, God uses people. The disciples went from place to place telling people that Jesus died and came back to life. Sabbath School teachers teach boys and girls about Jesus. Ministers teach mothers and daddies about Jesus' love and His commands. Missionaries go to far away lands to tell people how Jesus died for them.

Place the Bible picture on the flannel board. God has given us a special book that tells us about Jesus. It gives us rules to live by – God's commandments. The Bible is God's message to us. It is important that we take time to learn from it. We are told to hide its words in our heart, by

memorizing it. As you read your devotionals each day, you learn how to live pleasing to God. You will become a disciple – one who follows Jesus’ teaching.

Place the picture of praying hands on the flannel board. This is an activity that everyone can take part in. Grandmothers can pray – even if they cannot walk very well. Busy mothers and daddies can take time to pray some time during the day. Even children can pray. You can pray before meals. You can pray in the morning or at night. You can pray thankful prayers. You can ask God for help. You can pray for your teacher and minister. You can even pray for people who have never heard about Jesus.

Place the picture of an offering basket on the flannel board. We should always give ten percent of what God gives us back to Him. And there are times when we should give an offering to help share the story of Jesus. It costs money to print Bibles. It takes money to build churches. Even your Sabbath School books cost money. If everyone who believes and worships the true God will give something, it will help send the message to people who have never heard.

Draw a small circle on a chalk board or newsprint pad. Explain that Jesus told His disciples to begin sharing the story at home – in Jerusalem. We can begin in our home or our neighborhood.

Draw a larger circle around the small one. The disciples were to take the message of salvation to their country – all Judea. Ministers often travel from city to city teaching others God’s commands.

Draw an even larger circle around the other two. Jesus told the disciples to share the story with people who were different from them – in Samaria.

Draw the final, large circle, encircling the others. Finally, they were told to go into every part of the world. God wants everyone to know how they can have their sins forgiven.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Jesus has given us the cure for sin. What is that cure?
2. For whom did Jesus die?
3. What is the message the disciples were to take to people around the world?
4. Who gives that message out today?
5. How did you hear the story about Jesus?
6. What can you do to help share the story of Jesus?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Allow each child to choose a child pattern (located on the pattern page) and “dress” it by coloring hair, facial features and clothing. Tell the children that people living in different parts of the

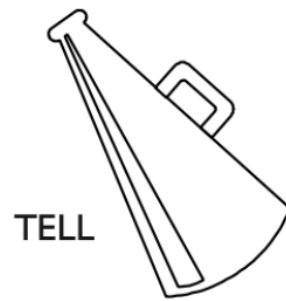
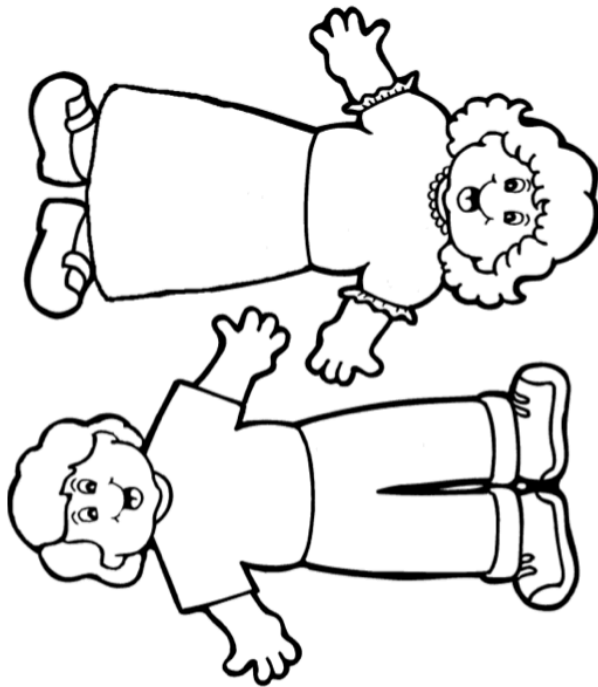
world often have skin of a different color. Show the children on the world map where people with dark brown skin live (Africa), people with yellowish skin (Asia), people with light brown skin (South America), and people with light colored skin (Europe). Allow them to tape their “child” to the map in the proper country.

SONG

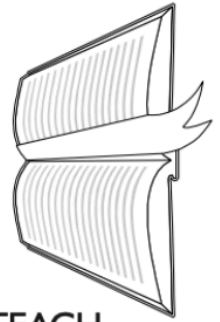
“Jesus Loves The Little Children” is on page 56 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer thanking God for His love for all people. Ask that He will help each of you to be active in sharing the story of Jesus, and for the cure for sin.



TELL



TEACH



PRAY



GIVE

A Happy Homecoming

MEMORY VERSE

“Jesus has been given a place of honor at the right hand of God” (NIrV). - Acts 2:33

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. State that Jesus’ home is with His Father in heaven.
2. Tell how Jesus went back to His heavenly home.
3. Name who was waiting to welcome Jesus to His heavenly home.
4. Recite their memory verse

TOPICS & THEMES

Clouds

Disciples

Eternal life

Fish, Fishing

God’s Kingdom

Jesus, Ascension of

Jesus, Birth of

Jesus, Childhood of

Jesus, Crucifixion of

Jesus, His Miracles

Jesus, in Heaven

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA Students’ and Teacher’s books, nine-inch paper plates, colored tissue paper, glue, scissors, marker pens, green construction paper, flannel board or newsprint pad, magazine pictures and pencils, attendance and memory verse charts, stickers or stars, songbook, CD or tape, music player

PREPARATION

It is imperative that we understand the times in which we live so that we can most effectively meet the needs of kids today. Because of the reconfiguration of the family unit, children have a

“profound sense of abandonment.” These children need to be reassured that God has a place for them in His kingdom. He loves them so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to make a way for them to spend eternity with Him. He will not reject them, but will welcome them.

They need to think of the church as a place where they can come and be accepted, loved and safe. A place that has been prepared for them. A place where they are welcome. As a teacher, part of your job is to help meet these needs.

Before you come to class, cut out magazine pictures of a house, toys, a family and a recliner or chair. You will also need to cut colored tissue paper into two inch squares for the flowers on the “Welcome” door hanger.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Ask the children to imagine that they have been on a long trip away from home. They have been gone for a long time. Now they are on their way home. On a flannel board place a picture of a house, or draw a house on a sheet of newsprint.

Ask: When you think of home, what is the first thing you think of? Do you think of your house? Do you think of your favorite things? Do you think of your family? Place pictures of a family, children’s toys, pets, etc. on your flannel board. All of these things are what make a house a home. When you are surrounded by a family who loves you, you feel safe and secure. When you have your own “things” around you, you feel like you belong.

Jesus left this earth to return home to heaven. He was going home. His Father was there. It was a perfect place for a perfect Person. It was where Jesus belonged!

Ask: How do you feel when you come home and your dog runs up and licks you? Is he glad to see you? This is his way of saying, “Welcome home.” Even if you have had a bad day at school, having someone who is glad to see you can cheer you up.

God the Father was waiting to welcome His Son home. He gave Jesus a place of honor. Jesus is there now talking to His Father about you and me (Romans 8:34).

Ask: Does your father have his own special chair? (Place a picture of a recliner on your flannel board.) When he comes home from a hard day at work, is there a special place where he can relax? Or, when your family goes to the table to eat, does everyone have their own place where they usually sit? It is nice to know that a place has been made ready for you. Most children have their own bedroom, even if they share it with a brother or sister. It is the place that has been made ready for them. Some of you may have posters on your wall. Some may even have your name on the door. This is your special place (2 Corinthians 5:1).

When Jesus went back to heaven there was a place made especially for Him. He has a special chair, a throne, that sits right next to His Father (Acts 2:30-36).

Jesus told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them and for all those who trust Him as their Savior (John 14:2-3).

Just imagine how wonderful it will be when we go to be with our Savior. Jesus will be waiting for us. We will have our own special place. God will be waiting to welcome us to our new home. It will be a happy homecoming!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What do you think of when you say the word “home”?
2. Where is Jesus’ home?
3. Who was waiting to welcome Him home?
4. Where did Jesus take His disciples before He went to His home?
5. What happened while Jesus was talking to the disciples?
6. Where does Jesus sit in heaven?
7. What is He doing there?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

The children will be making a “Welcome” door hanger.

Cut out the inner circle of a nine-inch paper plate. With a colored marker pen, write the word “welcome” across the top of the wreath. Cut three or four leaves out of green construction paper and glue them to the lower portion of the wreath. Wrap the tissue paper squares, one at a time, around a pencil eraser to form flowers. Dip the end in glue and place the paper flowers by the leaves. Allow the children to add any additional decorations to their wreath if they wish.

The children can hang the “Welcome” sign in their rooms to remind them that they will be welcomed in God’s Kingdom.

SONG

“Behold, Behold” is on page 45 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer, thanking God for the place He has made ready for us and for Jesus.

On the chalkboard in the picture below, write some of the
“Wonderful Words of Life” that you have learned in your lessons.
Color the picture.

